

VISIT...

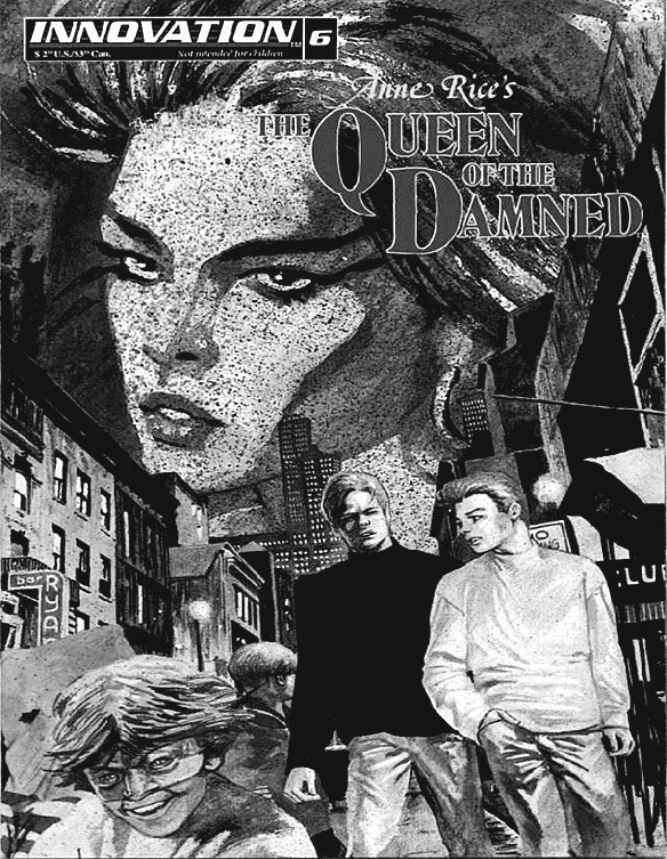
LANZAROTE
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INNOVATION 6

\$ 2" U.S./\$3" Can.

Not intended for children

Anne Rice's
THE QUEEN OF THE DAMNED



HAIGHT STREET,
7:55 P.M.

WHY CAN'T
WE JUST GO ON TO
THE CONCERT, ARMAND?
THE DOORS ARE OPEN
ALREADY!

THE COVEN
HOUSE IS NEAR, DANIEL.
SOME OF THE OTHERS ARE
STILL THERE, PLOTTING
LESTAY'S RUIN.

I WANT TO
PASS CLOSE, JUST
FOR A MOMENT. I WANT
TO KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON.





SEED
LIQUID

HOW COULD THEY HIDE
FROM THE THING THAT
WAS PASSING OVER--

--FROM THE DEEPENING
SOUND THAT MORTALS
COULD NOT EVEN HEAR?

DEATH OUT THERE.
THINGS LIKE THEM
BURST IN THEIR
TRACKS.

THEN NOTHING.

DANIEL SAW IT IN
SPUTTERING FLAMES.

IT'S
OVER, ISN'T
IT?

FOR NOW.

IT
KNEW WE
WERE THERE--
IT HEARD
US.

THEN
WHY DIDN'T
IT--?

I DON'T
KNOW. I ONLY KNOW
IT KNEW WE WERE
THERE.

IT KNEW
BEFORE WE FOUND
SHELTER.

all hallow's eve

part
one



based on the novel by anne rice
adapted and edited by faye perozich
painted by o.j. carriello
lettered by vickie williams







THERE
ARE PERHAPS
THIRTY OTHERS
HERE..

..AND ONE OR
TWO SO OLD THEY COULD
DESTROY THE REST OF US
IN AN INSTANT.



WHERE?
TELL ME
WHERE



LISTEN.
AND SEE FOR
YOURSELF THERE
IS NO HIDING
FROM THEM.





THE AUDITORIUM WAS
ALMOST FILLED.

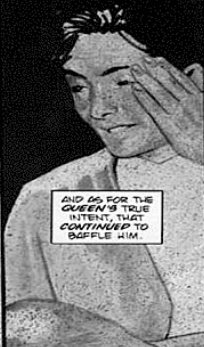
KHAYMAN LOOKED ABOUT
HIMSELF THOUGHTFULLY,
SAVORING THE MOMENT AS
HE SAVED
EVERYTHING ELSE.

EARLIER, HE HAD DEVoured THE TEXTS--
LOUIS'S TESTAMENT, AND LESTAT'S
HISTORY. THEY HAD CLARIFIED FOR HIM
MANY THINGS.

AND WHAT KHAYMAN HAD
DIVINED OF LESTAT'S
INTENTIONS HAD BEEN
CONFIRMED COMPLETELY.



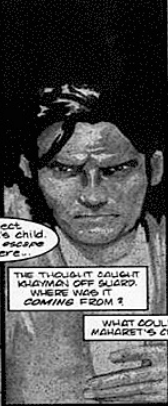
BUT OF THE MYSTERY OF THE
TWINs, OF COURSE,
THE BOOKS TOLD NOTHING.



AND AS FOR THE
QUEEN'S TRUE
INTENT, THAT
CONTINUED TO
BAFFLE HIM.



Maharet's
child,
Jessica.



Protect
Maharet's child.
Somehow escape
from here...

THE THOUGHT CAUGHT
KIDNAPERS OFF GUARD.
WHERE WAS IT
COMING FROM ?

WHAT COULD THIS MEAN,
MAHARET'S CHILD, JESSICA--

--AND WHEN THE THOUGHTS
PERTAINED, WITHOUT DOUBT,
TO A MORTAL WOMAN ?



Take
care of Jessica.
Somehow save the
Mother...



Jessica,
my Jessica



THE NORDIC BLOOD DRINKER WAS TRACKING
A SMALL MORTAL WOMEN WHO FOUGHT HER
WAY THROUGH THE CROWD.

TEASE--MAHARET'S
MORTAL DAUGHTER.

MADDENED, DISBELIEVING,
KHAYMAN FOCUSED TIGHTLY
ON THE SMALL WOMAN.

HE FELT HIS EYES
MIST WITH TEARS
AS HE SAW
THE ASTONISHING
RESEMBLANCE.

MAHARET, ALIVE.

MAHARET, THE GUARDIAN OF HER
MORTAL FAMILY. MAHARET, THE
EMBODIMENT OF ILLIMITABLE
STRENGTH AND WILL.

SHE LIVES, AND IF SHE
LIVES THEN THEY BOTH
LIVE, THE RED-HAIRED
SISTERS!

MAHARET'S PROFILE.
MAHARET'S SON.

MAHARET'S CHILD, ALL
RIGHT. BUT HOW?



KHAYMAN STUDIED THE
NORRIG CREATURE EVEN
MORE INTENTLY,
PROBING EVEN DEEPER.



BUT ALL HE CAUGHT
NOW WAS THE FIERCE
PROTECTIVENESS.

Rescue Jesse—
rescue her from
this place—



—where her
eyes might see
what no one could
ever explain
away.

THEN SILENCE. THE BLOOD DRINKER
WAS SUDDENLY AWARE OF THE
SURVEILLANCE.



THE CREATURE
COULDN'T FIND
HIM.



TWO DOZEN OTHER
WHITE FACES HE
PICKED OUT OF THE
CROWD, BUT NOT
KHAYMAN.

THEN KHAYMAN SPIED
ANOTHER
INTRIGUING FIGURE.



KUEHLEN SOUGHT FOR
THE NAME, BUT THE
CREATURE'S MIND
WAS A PERFECT
BLANK.



STILL, IT WAS EASY TO
PUSH THE BEING'S
NAME FROM DANIEL,
HIS NEWBORN FLEDGLING.

ARMAND

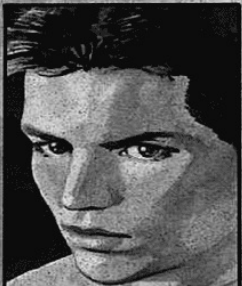
AND THE FLEDGLING WAS SCARCELY
DEAD. ALL THE TINY MOLECULES OF
HIS BODY WERE DANCING WITH THE
DEVON'S INVISIBLE CHEMISTRY.



NO HARM
MEANT TO YOU OR
YOUR YOUNG ONE.
NO FRIEND TO THE
MOTHER.

ARMAND HEARD BUT
GAVE NO ANSWER.

WHATEVER TERROR HE FELT
AT THE SIGHT OF ONE SO OLD,
HE MASKED COMPLETELY.





KHAYMAN UNDERSTOOD
THIS BEING ARMAND.



NOT UNLIKE MY
OWN SIMPLE SOUL.
YOU'RE LOST IN ALL
THIS BECAUSE YOU
KNOW THE TERRAIN
TOO WELL.



TO THIS ONE HE'D
GIVE ANYTHING THAT
HE COULD--

WE FELT HE UNDER-
STOOD AND LIKED
HIM COMPLETELY.

AND THAT
NO MATTER HOW FAR
YOU WALK, YOU COME
AGAIN TO THE SAME
MOUNTAINS, THE SAME
VALLEY.

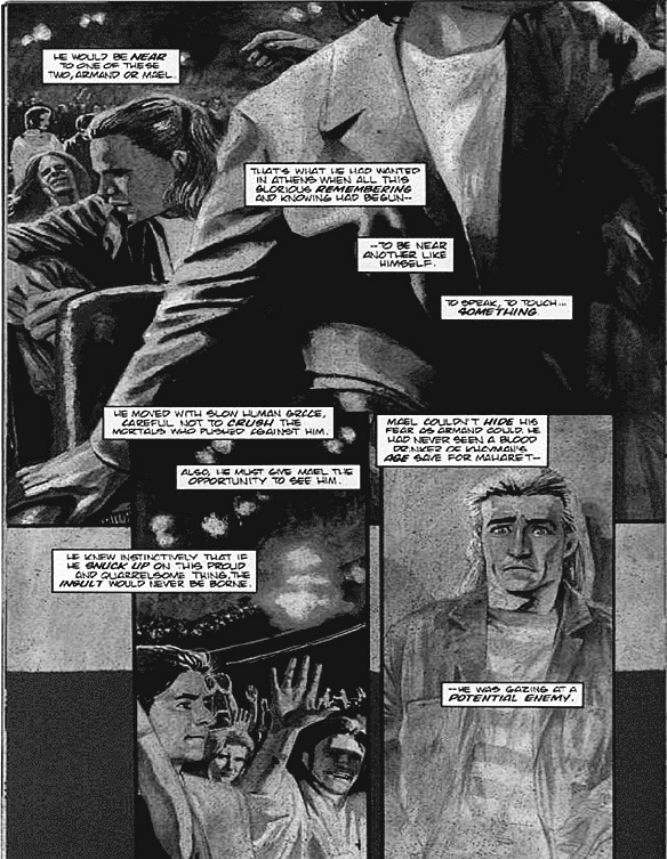


--AND QUIETLY, HE
LET ARMAND KNOW IT.



KEEP WITH
THE MORTAL
CROWD. ONE'LL
PICK YOU OUT
WHEN YOU STEP
APART.

IT'S THAT
SIMPLE.



HE WOULD BE NEAR
TO ONE OF THESE
TWO, ARMAND OR MAEL.

THAT'S WHAT HE HAD WANTED
IN ATHENS WHEN ALL THIS
BLOODS REMEMBERING
AND KNOWING HAD BEGUN--

--TO BE NEAR
ANOTHER LIKE
HIMSELF.

TO SPEAK, TO TOUCH--
SOMETHING

HE MOVED WITH SLOW HUMAN GRACE,
CAREFUL NOT TO CRUSH THE
MORTALS WHO PUSHED AGAINST HIM.

ALSO, HE MUST GIVE MAEL THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SEE HIM.

HE KNEW INSTINCTIVELY THAT IF
HE SMILED UP ON THIS PROUD
AND COURAGEOUS THING, THE
IMPULS WOULD NEVER BE BORNE.

MAEL COULDN'T HIDE HIS
FEAR OF ARMAND. COULD HE
HAD NEVER SEEN A BLOOD
DRINKER OF KALAMAK'S
AGE SAVE FOR MAHARET--

--HE WAS GAZING AT A
POTENTIAL ENEMY.



YOU MUST MAKE
YOUR SHIELD STRONGER,
MY FRIEND. DON'T LET
YOUR LOVE FOR THAT GIRL
EXPOSE YOU.

THE GIRL WILL BE
PERFECTLY SAFE FROM OUR
QUEEN IF YOU CURB YOUR THOUGHTS
OF THE GIRL'S ORIGIN AND
HER PROTECTOR.



THAT
NAME IS
ANATHEMA TO
THE QUEEN. IT
ALWAYS HAS
BEEN.



AND
WHERE IS THE
QUEEN?

SHE'S CLOSE.
SHE'S BURN'T THEIR
TAVERN HOUSE. SHE HUNTS
THE FEW ROGUES WHO
HAVEN'T COME TO
THE HALL.

SHE
TAKES HER
TIME WITH
IT.



AND WHY DO YOU
GIVE ME THIS WARNING,
WHEN SHE CAN HEAR
EVERY WORD WE SPEAK
TO EACH OTHER?

BUT I DON'T
THINK THAT SHE CAN.
I AM OF THE FIRST
BLOOD, FRIEND.

I COULD NOT READ
HER MIND IF SHE STOOD ON
THIS SPOT, AND MINE IS CLOSED
TO HER, AS WELL.



THIS CLEARLY FASCINATED MUEL.

SO MAHARET COULD NOT HEAR
THE MOTHER! MAHARET HAD
NOT ADMITTED THIS TO HIM.

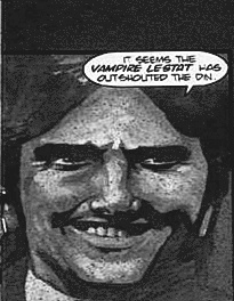
NO, AND THE MOTHER
CAN ONLY KNOW OF HER THROUGH
YOUR THOUGHTS, SO KINDLY
GUARD THEM.

SPEAK TO ME IN A
HUMAN VOICE, FOR THIS
CITY IS A WILDERNESS OF
SUCH VOICES.

AND THIS
WILL DEFEAT
HER?

SHE WHO LEADS
A MULTITUDE OF
VOICES MAY NOT HEAR
ANY ONE VOICE.

AND SHE WHO
WOULD LISTEN CLOSELY
TO ONE MUST SHUT OUT
THE OTHERS, YOU ARE
OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW
THE TRICK.



IT SEEMS THE
VAMPIRE LESTAT WAS
OUTSHOUTED THE ON.



SHE CAN'T DO
ALL THINGS, WHETHER
SHE HERSELF KNOWS IT
OR NOT.

HOW SO?
WHAT IS SHE REALLY
LIKE?

SHE WAS FULL
OF DREAMS AND HIGH
IDEALS. SHE WAS LIKE
LESTAT.



BUT WHAT IN
THE NAME OF HELL
DOES SHE MEAN TO
DO?

THIS CONCERT WILL
TAKE PLACE BECAUSE LESTAT
WANTS IT, AND WHEN IT IS
FINISHED, SHE WILL SLAUGHTER
MORE OF OUR KIND.



BUT SHE WILL
LEAVE SOME, COME TO
SERVE WHATEVER GRAND
PURPOSE SHE HAS."

-SOME
PERHAPS TO
WITNESS



TO WITNESS? I
THINK NOT. I THINK SHE IS
CRUDEER THAN THAT.

SHE SPARES THOSE
WHOM LESTAT LOVES. IT'S
THAT SIMPLE.



NO, THERE'S
MORE TO IT THAN
THAT. THERE HAS
TO BE.

SOME OF US SHE CAN'T
KILL AND THOSE WHO GO TO
MORRIS NOUN-PANDORA AND AGENT-
LESTAT KNOWS NOTHING OF THEM
BUT THEIR NAMES.



MAEL'S FACE CHANGED
SLIGHTLY. IT WAS CLEAR
TO KHAYMAN THAT MAEL
WOULD HAVE GONE TO
MORRIS IF HE COULD. IF
ONLY MAHARET HAD
COME TO PROTECT JESSICA.

MAEL TRIED TO BANISH
MAHARET'S NAME FROM
HIS THOUGHTS. HE WAS
AFRAID OF MAHARET,
DEEPLY AFRAID.



BUT I CAN'T.
I AM NOT GIVEN
ANSWERS.
ONLY ORDERS.
MY FRIEND.

AH, YES, YOU TRY TO
HIDE WHAT YOU KNOW. AND
THIS IS JUST WHAT YOU MUST
REVEAL TO ME.

AND MY MISSION
IS TO SURVIVE THIS NIGHT
AND TO TAKE MY CHARGE SAFELY
OUT OF HERE.

KHAYMAN MEANT TO PRESS, TO
DEMAND. BUT HE DID NEITHER.

HE HAD FELT A SOFT, SUBTLE
CHANGE IN THE ATMOSPHERE
AROUND HIM, A CHANGE SO
INSIGNIFICANT THAT HE
COULDN'T CALL IT MOVEMENT
OR SOUND.

SHE WAS COMING.



THE HALL WENT DARK
SUDDENLY, AND FOR
ONE SPLIT SECOND
KHAYMAN THOUGHT IT
WAS HER MAGIC--

--THAT SOME GROTESQUE AND VENGEFUL
JUDGEMENT WOULD NOW BE MADE.





I AM
THE VAMPIRE
LESTAT !





IN THE HEART OF THE MONSTROUS CRY OF
THE VAMPIRE LEGION, KLAYMAN LISTENED
AGAIN FOR THE SOUND OF THE MOTHER--

--BUT HE COULD NO
LONGER FIND IT.



HE ENVISIONED HER AGAIN AS
SHE'D BEEN IN **ATHENS**,
WATCHING THE TAVERN BURN.

OH, THE **QUEEN OF HEAVEN**
SHE'D SEEMED, PRESIDING
OVER CENTURIES OF **LITANY**.



THE VISION CARRIED HIM BACK
OVER THE CENTURIES TO A DIM
AND AWFUL MOMENT--

--WHEN HE'D COME
A **MORTAL MAN**,
TO WEED HER WILL.



THESE TWINS...
THESE **EVIL SISTERS**.
THEY HAVE SPOKEN SUCH
ABOMINATIONS.

HAVE **MERCY**.
THEY MEANT NO HARM...
I **SWEAR** THEY TELL
THE **TRUTH**.



LET
THEM GO,
YOUR HIGHNESS.
THEY CANNOT
CHANGE IT
NOW.

AH, BUT YOU
SEE, WE MUST PUT IT
TO THE TEST, THEIR
REVOLTING LIES.



YOU MUST COME
CLOSER, MY DEVOTED
STEWARD, YOU WHO HAVE
ALWAYS SERVED ME WITH
SUCH DEVOTION--



MY QUEEN,
MY BELOVED QUEEN,
WHAT DO YOU WANT
OF ME ?

NOT ME.

YOU WOULD NOT DO
THIS TO ME !



MY QUEEN, I AM
KHAYMAN !



WE SHOULD HAVE PERISHED LONG
BEFORE NOW, AS SO MANY BLOOD
DRINKERS HAD AFTERWARDS.

BUT HE HAD NOT PERISHED.
AND THE TWINS—AT LEAST
ONE—HAD LIVED ON ALSO.

DID SHE KNOW IT ?
DID SHE KNOW THOSE
TERRIBLE DREAMS ?



WHY DON'T YOU
KILL ME ? YOU KNOW
WHAT I AM !



DON'T YOU
KNOW EVIL WHEN
YOU SEE IT ?

KHAYMAN FORCED
HIMSELF TO
MOVE. HE HAD TO
ESCAPE.

SMELL OF BLOOD. HUNGER
OF SO MANY BLOOD
DRINKERS IN THE HALL.
AND THE THROB OF MUSIC
THROUGH THE WOOD AND
THE PLASTER.

CALM WAS RETURNING TO HIM,
BUT ONLY SLOWLY, WHEN HE
REALIZED THAT TWO MORTAL
MEN HAD PASSED NEARBY AND
WERE STARING AT HIM.



AND WITH SUCH NATURAL
RETICENCE THEY STARED
AS IF THEY WERE TOO
POLITE TO BE AFRAID.



ELDERS OF THE TALAMASCA,
LOOKING FOR JESSICA.

Know me?
Yes, of course
you do. No harm.
Don't care.





NOW, HOW WOULD ALL
THIS READ IN THE
ARCHIVES OF THE
TALAMBOCA?

SHOULD HE TELL THEM WHERE
JESSE WAS? IT WOULD MAKE
NO DIFFERENCE ULTIMATELY.

Don't go to her.
You'd be *fool's* if
you did.

She has
others like me
to look after her
now. Best leave
here.

I would
if I were
you.



Go away.



KRAYMAN WAS ALONE AGAIN, WITH
THE RHYTHM OF THE MUSIC COMING
FROM THE DOORWAY...

...ALONE AND WONDERING WHY
HE HAD COME HERE, WHAT IT
WAS HE WANTED...

...WISHING THAT HE COULD
FORGET AGAIN, THAT HE
WAS IN SOME LOVELY
PLACE FULL OF WARM
BREEZES AND MORTALS
WHO DIDN'T KNOW WHAT
HE WAS...

...AND TWINKLING
ELECTRIC LIGHTS
BENEATH THE
FADED CLOUDS...

...AND FLAT ENDLESS
CITY PAVEMENTS TO
WALK UNTIL MORNING.



FIVE TIMES JESSE HAD BEEN
SWEEPED BACK FROM THE STAGE.

SHE PUSHED AT THE LITTLE
CLUSTER THAT HAD TAKEN HER
PLACE, TRYING DESPERATELY
TO REACH THE STAGE AGAIN.

IN THE FLASHING LIGHTS SHE
SAW THE VAMPIRE LESTER, THE
BLOOD RUNNING IN TINY
DROPLETS DOWN HIS WHITE
FACE, AS IF FROM CHRIST'S
CROWN OF THORNS.

JESSE FELT HER HEART
KNOCKING AGAIN AS
SHE STARED UP AT HIM.

YES, YOU SEE IT,
AND THERE IS NO
MISTAKE! NO OTHER
EXPLANATION!

TOUCH HIM, DAMN IT,
YOU HAVE TO!



AND SUDDENLY SHE
HAD A CHANGE.



STAMPED



JESSE FELT THE
COLD SUCK OF
HIS SILKY
CHEST AGAINST
HER FACE...

...SHE TASTED
THE BLOOD
SUDDENLY ON
HER LIP!

OH, GOD,
REAL!

YES, MARGIE'S SKIN,
LIKE THIS, AND
MARGARET'S SKIN,
LIKE THIS, AND
ALL OF THEM!

YES, THIS! REAL
NOT HUMAN, ALWAYS.

AND IT WAS ALL
HERE IN HER
KISS AND SHE
KNEW AND IT
WAS TOO LATE
FOR THEM TO
STOP HER NOW!

YOU
DEVIL!

LOVE YOU,
JESSICA



HE LIFTED HER AND
BEGAN TO SWING HER
IN A CIRCLE.



THE SCREAMING MUSICIANS WERE
A BLUR. THE LIGHTS WERE
VIOLENT STREAKS OF WHITE, RED.



SHE WAS MOANING
BUT SHE KEPT
LOOKING UP AT
HIM, AT HIS EYES.



YES, REAL.



DESPERATELY SHE HUNG ON,
FOR IT SEEMED HE MEANT
TO THROW HER HIGH INTO
THE AIR OVER THE HEADS
OF THE CROWD.



AND THEN, AS HE SET HER
DOWN, SHE FELT HIS MOUTH
CLOSE ON HERS.



EVIL,
JESSE, DO YOU
HAVE ALWAYS
KNOWN.